

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 12, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 1

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Roger Hernández, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

December 1, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1—Relative to the Robin Williams Tunnel.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 1, as amended, Levine. Robin Williams Tunnel.

This measure would designate the Waldo Tunnel on State Highway Route 101 between postmile 0.885 and postmile 1.074 in the County of Marin as the Robin Williams Tunnel. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate

signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Robin McLaurin Williams was born in Chicago,
2 Illinois, on July 21, 1951, to his mother Laurie McLaurin and father
3 Robert Fitzgerald Williams. At 16 years of age Robin Williams
4 moved with his family to Tiburon, California; and

5 WHEREAS, Robin Williams attended Redwood High School
6 in Larkspur, California, and studied theater at the College of Marin
7 in Kentfield, California. Robin Williams received a full scholarship
8 to the Juilliard School in New York City where he pursued his gift
9 as an actor and comedian; and

10 WHEREAS, Robin Williams began his career as a comedian
11 doing stand-up comedy shows in the San Francisco Bay area and
12 continued his work in Los Angeles where he developed his
13 improvisational style as an actor and a stand-up comedian; and

14 WHEREAS, Robin Williams then appeared on several television
15 programs and starred in “Mork and Mindy” in the late 1970s to
16 early 1980s. Many successful film roles followed, including his
17 role as radio disc jockey Adrian Cronauer in “Good Morning,
18 Vietnam” in 1987, and teacher John Keating in “Dead Poets
19 Society” in 1989. Both roles earned him lead actor Academy
20 Award recognition; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1997, Robin Williams was voted funniest man
22 alive by Entertainment Weekly. The next year, in 1998,
23 Entertainment Weekly listed him as one of the 25 Best Actors of
24 all time. In 2003, he won the Grammy Award for Best Comedy
25 Album; and

26 WHEREAS, In 2005, Robin Williams received the Cecil B.
27 DeMille Award at the Golden Globe Awards. He dedicated that
28 lifetime achievement award to the memory of his good friend,
29 fellow actor, and roommate at Juilliard, Christopher Reeve; and

30 WHEREAS, Along with his talent to make people laugh, Robin
31 Williams raised funds for various causes. Robin Williams’ charity
32 work included health care, human rights, education, environmental
33 protection, the arts, and much more. In 2010, he gave 100 percent
34 of the proceeds from his shows in New Zealand to victims of the
35 devastating earthquake in Christchurch; and

1 WHEREAS, Robin Williams supported the following
2 foundations and their work: Aid Still Required, American
3 Foundation for AIDS Research, Amnesty International, Andre
4 Agassi Foundation for Education, Augie's Quest, Bob Woodruff
5 Foundation, Celebrity Fight Night Foundation, Christopher &
6 Dana Reeve Foundation, Comic Relief, David Foster Foundation,
7 Doctors Without Borders, Dogs Deserve Better, Dream Foundation,
8 Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, International Medical
9 Corps, Keep Memory Alive, LIVESTRONG, Love Our Children
10 USA, Luke Neuhedel Foundation, Muhammad Ali Parkinson
11 Center, MusiCares, Prince's Rainforests Project, Prince's Trust,
12 Robert F. Kennedy Memorial, Smile Train, St. Jude Children's
13 Research Hospital, and UNICEF; and

14 WHEREAS, One of Robin Williams' strongest affiliations with
15 philanthropy was working with Comic Relief, a nonprofit
16 organization with a mission to raise money for housing, health
17 care, and the homeless. Robin Williams would help by hosting
18 events and shows and performing to help raise funds; and

19 WHEREAS, Robin Williams also was an active volunteer
20 through the United Service Organizations where he went on a total
21 of six tours and visited about 89,000 troops in 12 countries,
22 including Iraq and Afghanistan. Regardless of the challenging
23 circumstances, comedian Robin Williams made troops in conflict
24 zones smile and laugh. Robin Williams also listened to their
25 personal experiences; and

26 WHEREAS, He also funded the Robin Williams Scholarship
27 at his alma mater, the Juilliard School in New York City. Each
28 year Robin Williams provided a scholarship to cover the tuition
29 cost for one theater student; and

30 WHEREAS, Robin Williams was a friend to the North Bay
31 community of the San Francisco Bay area. He would often drop
32 in unannounced at comedy nights at the 142 Throckmorton Theatre
33 in Mill Valley. There he would encourage young, budding
34 comedians. He did so with kindness and humility and many
35 comedians aspired to perform with the same level of wit and insight
36 as Robin Williams; and

37 WHEREAS, Robin Williams died on August 11, 2014, in his
38 home in Paradise Cay, Tiburon, California, as a result of suicide.
39 Though he bravely battled addiction and mental illness, his death
40 was a consequence of those diseases; and

1 WHEREAS, Robin Williams will be remembered for making
2 us laugh and for his generosity to others. It is altogether fitting to
3 officially name what is commonly known as the Waldo Tunnel
4 after Robin Williams; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
6 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
7 Waldo Tunnel (#27-40) on State Highway Route 101, located
8 between postmile 0.885 and postmile 1.074 in the County of Marin,
9 as the Robin Williams Tunnel; and be it further

10 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
11 to determine the cost of erecting the appropriate signs, consistent
12 with the signing requirements for the state highway system,
13 showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations
14 from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and
15 be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
17 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
18 author for appropriate distribution.